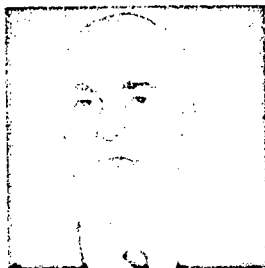


parade
THE SUNDAY
NEWSPAPER MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 18, 1973



Q. *If Richard McGarrah Helms is going to be 60 on March 30, 1973, and the Central Intelligence Agency of which he was director makes retirement mandatory at 60, why didn't Nixon let Helms remain as head of the CIA*

until the end of March? Why did he have to step him down to such a job as Ambassador to Iran? Surely that is no way to treat a man who has given the government 30 years of service. Or is it?—L.D., McLean, Va.

A. Here again is a case of a man who has not been too popular with the current White House palace guard. Helms was a Lyndon Johnson appointee, an intelligent, moderate, well-bred gentleman, well-liked by the press to which occupation as a young man he once belonged. Undoubtedly, President Nixon feels better having as head of the CIA a conservative of his own selection, James Schlesinger.

HS/HC-228